

**Virginia Latino Advisory Board**  
**Listening Session Minutes**  
**01/23/23**



VLAB Listening Session  
Iglesia Mana Del Cielo, Sterling VA  
1/23/23  
7:00pm

Started Time: 7:22PM

VLAB members present:

Chair, Lyons Sanchezcocha, Secretary, Eduardo Zelaya, Pastor. Jonathan Avendano, Astrid Gamez and Yahusef Medina

VLAB Overview and Introductions

Q&A

Marcos Monroi, Director of Libre Virginia From Sterling

**Education:**

- His organization is advocating for everything that is related to education during the legislation in Richmond Virginia. He is working in the community with black and Latino families because they have been struggling in school in math and reading given that statistics are reflecting challenges.

Oto Avendano, Community Member

**Housing:**

- He requested some information about a property in Sterling.
1. He would like to have better services in the Governmental agencies such as the DMV.
  2. Increasing Civic engagaent, this will aliviate the community.
  3. He is concerned for not having prayer sessions in the school. He would like the governor to enforce legislation that allows schools to retake prayer sessions in school.

Marlene Serrano, Community member

**Information:**

- She would like to have more information available in Spanish about VLAB. Facebook, Twitter, Etc. it will help her and her friends to feel more close to what VLAB does and updates about the governor. .

Fredy Burgos,Hispanic Republican Committee from Fairfax County,

**Jobs Opportunities/immigration:**

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- He is voicing his concerns about the crime within the latino community. Manassas, Annandale, he mentioned the lack of the Job opportunities is causing the crime within the communities.

Maria Arevalo, Community

### **Education:**

- Would like to have more ESL programs Available for community members that come to the USA without knowing English.

Marvin Quinteros, Director of Outreach, Family services Org

### **Service/ Help;**

- He would like the governor to keep providing help for families that were impacted by Covid pandemic.

Taylor Branson, Branson Group, Small business Organization

### **Economic/Labor:**

- Would like to have more incentives for people that would like to start their bussiness
  - Investment on Youth

Eduardo Mondragon, Leesburg, Loud Co. Community member

### **Business/Taxes:**

- He would like to have more representation as business owner, Virginia has not been friendly for paying taxes. Other states have been more friendly for people (undocumented) that owns busniess and pays higher taxes.

Sharon Parks, Director Communication Outreach, Healthworks- Non profit

### **Medical Health:**

- Her organization provide Services
  - Woman Health
- Enroll people to Health Insurance

Maria Velen, Volunteer at Church, Community Member

### **Organizing;**

- She would like to get organized to advocate for issues that she is concerned related to education